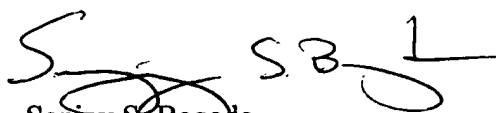


specification, resection units 1406 may be used to resect tissue by mechanical abrasion, cutting, or severing of tissue. Resection unit 1406 may also be used to ablate tissue, e.g., via a Coblation<sup>®</sup> (cool ablation) mechanism. The Examiner is referred to the specification, e.g., page 55, starting at line 10, and page 57, starting at line 4.

Accordingly, since Fig. 42 represents a resection unit 1406 of the invention, the claims reciting mechanical severing, resection, etc. aspects read on Fig. 42. As a result, applicant asserts that claims 1, 9, 10, 18, 42, 51-59, and 75 are appropriate to the species previously elected.

If the Examiner believes a telephone conference would expedite prosecution of this application, please telephone the undersigned at (408) 736-0224.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'S. Bagade', with a stylized flourish extending to the right.

Sanjay S. Bagade  
Reg. No. 42,280